



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
July 5, 2021

Kaiser-Friedrich-Straße 13
53113 Bonn
Fon **+49 (0)228 9212590**
Fax +49 (0)228 9212591
E-Mail office@ifhe.org

www.ifhe.org

World Population Day (11 July 2021) Putting the brakes on COVID-19

The *International Federation for Home Economics* (IFHE) and its members join 2021 World Population Day celebrations on 11 July to focus attention on the toll COVID-19 takes on health and wellbeing of women and girls.

The global crisis has hit almost every household and community, but not everyone is affected equally. Women and girls' health and wellbeing is at risk in many ways:

- Women who represent the largest share of **front-line health** workers are disproportionately exposed to the coronavirus.
- Disrupted supply chains impact the **availability of contraceptives** and heighten the risk of unintended pregnancy.
- Sexual and reproductive health services are being sidelined and **gender-based violence** is on the rise.
- Women disproportionately work in **insecure labour** markets, are harder hit by the economic impacts of COVID-19 and risk falling into poverty.
- Women's **unpaid care work** has increased as a result of school closures and the increased needs of older people.

IFHE globally advocates for home economics education as a key factor to ensure health and wellbeing. Formal and informal home economics education include all sexes, provide knowledge on how to responsibly manage resources and strengthen the position of women who are predominantly heads of households.

The *International Federation for Home Economics* (IFHE) and its members are committed to continuing this work, putting the brakes on COVID-19 and contributing to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

A Global Voice for Home Economics: Founded 1908, IFHE is the only international organization representing home economics and consumer sciences.

We advocate education & research on the responsible management resources at household and consumer level. Our perspective is global, we strive to achieve sustainable living for all.

IFHE has members in almost 70 countries and holds consultative status with the UN.